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MR. FLOWDEN TO RETIRE.

A Martyr to Ill-Health.

Mr. A. C. Flowden, the Metropolitan
police magistrate, has tendered his re-
signation. Mr. Flowden, who is staying
at Hove, is suffering from acute neuritis,
and his condition is causing some
anxiety.

Mr. Flowden's decision to resign his
position at the Metropolitan Police Court
will cause little surprise to his friends,
for he has been struggling against illness
for a very long time. Ever since a visit
to Jamaica, shortly after leaving Oxford,
he has been a persistent sufferer from
headache in one form or another, varied
at intervals by sharp and agonizing at-
tacks of neuralgia. Last year
owing to severe illness, he had to re-
linquish his duties, and when he resumed
them in March, after an absence of seven
and a half months, he confessed that dur-
ing that period "he had suffered enough
to make him crave for as much sympathy
as he could get."

Mr. Flowden is probably best known
to the general public as the "judicial
humorist," but his autobiography, pub-
lished under the title of "Gleanings
and Chaff," throws a different light on the
man, and in that work he writes:

EXHIBITION IN COURT.

"I think for two years after leaving
Jamaica I had headache every day, and
for years and years my first waking
thought has been whether my head has
been free from oppression or pain, and
just in proportion as it was free or not
so would I prepare myself for a bright
and active day or one that was dull and
depressing. As to neuritis, only those
who have suffered know what torture it
can be. Not infrequently I have sat
through cases in the police-court quiet-
ly, and then, when the next day to see
myself credited with vivacious remarks
which have even been received with
laughter! Reports of this kind always
surprise me, and tempt me to say in
passing that the liability which is con-
stantly referred to as (laughter) (much
laughter) (hours of laughter) is almost
entirely mythical, and has little or no
existence outside the lively imagination
of the reporter."

"DOUBTLESS HALL."

"Doubtless Hall," according to Mr.
Flowden, was no mere fancy of Dickens's
brain, for he himself received his early
education at a Yorkshire village where
"the case was the vicar's most trusted
ally in the sacred sense of education,"
and where it was thought wise "at re-
gular intervals to dose the whole school
with horrid cups of seneca tea, something
hot, something cold, but always nasty."
It was originally intended that he should
go in for the Indian Civil Service, but
the idea was abandoned, and he took up
the law, joining the Oxford Circuit. "As
the law reporter of 'The Times' he
had to attend every town on the circuit."

Mr. Flowden was first appointed a
London police magistrate in 1884, and
after sitting for a few years at Wande-
sworth and Hammer-smith he was trans-
ferred, at his own request, to Maryle-
bone in 1892, and has remained there
ever since. Mr. Flowden has never
shared the belief that a police-court is
an unwholesome place to spend much
time in. On the contrary, he has con-
fessed that he can but feel grateful for
the fate that made him a magistrate,
"grateful for duties which, far from
being mean and depressing, as some
people think, I find to be full of human
interest, and yet happily not so exacting
that they leave no leisure for other
pursuits and for healthful recreation."

"Happy the magistrate," wrote Mr.
Flowden, "who when the day comes to
take off his armour, when the night
cometh when no man can work, can
rely on posterity to inscribe on his
tombstone—

For what doth the Lord require of
thee?
To do justice, and to love mercy.
Therein lies all my ambition." There
are few who have had experience of Mr.
Flowden's work who will deny that he
has done his best by his considerate
treatment of offenders who came before
him to realize that ambition.

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SATURDAY, 22nd AUGUST.

8 A.M. HONGKONG. 8 A.M. HEUNGSHAN.

5 P.M. HEUNGSHAN. 5 P.M. KINSHAN.

SUNDAY, 23rd AUGUST.

5 P.M. FAISHAN. 10 A.M. HEUNGSHAN.

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AUCTIONS.

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Lot No.	Boundary (Approximate)	Area (Approximate)	Remarks
1	Between the land of the late Mr. J. H. Wilson and the land of the late Mr. J. H. Wilson	100 ft. by 100 ft.	1.00
2	Between the land of the late Mr. J. H. Wilson and the land of the late Mr. J. H. Wilson	100 ft. by 100 ft.	1.00

IMPERIAL GERMANY.

STRIKING ARTICLE BY LORD CROMER.

The Spirit That Makes For War.

Some months ago, it will be recalled, Prince von Bulow published a book called "Imperial Germany," which received a great deal of attention at the time as indicating the trend of German thought and action in regard to the general European situation. Among the many criticisms levelled at the work was one by Lord Cromer, in the Spectator, which is of particular interest in the light of recent events and which we reprint below. Lord Cromer wrote:

It is greatly to be hoped that Prince Bulow's book on "Imperial Germany" will be carefully studied in this country. This is a most characteristic and also a most important work. It is characteristic because it may confidently be asserted that no German statesman, say one of North German nationality, could or would have published such a book. Prince Bulow is an ardent patriot and patriot is necessarily exclusive and egotistical. But a French or English statesman, similarly situated, however deeply imbued with the idea that foreign policy should be dictated by the interests of his own country, would not improbably have endeavoured to throw a more or less transparent veil of cosmopolitan sympathy over any extreme display of egotism. Prince Bulow has done nothing of the kind. In dealing with Italy we do, indeed, come across a faint trace of idealism. We are told that "although Italy has regarded her relations with Germany from a common-sense point of view," such has not been at all the case with Germany. The latter Power has allowed herself to some extent to be guided by sentiment. But with this exception the blunt realistic truth is brought prominently forward without the least attempt at concealment. Prince Bulow is no believer in emotional diplomacy. He deprecates "exaggerated expressions of friendship." He is desirous to let all concerned know that Germany cannot "be trampled on with impunity," a fact of which the world has for a long time past been fully aware. But the reader rises from a perusal of Prince Bulow's pages without any strong conviction that, should the necessity arise, Germany would not readily trample on others. It is, at all events, abundantly clear that whenever any German interest is involved, no moral obstacles will be allowed to stand in the way of furthering German views by all the resources of a diplomacy which is not over-scrupulous, supported by prodigious force in the background. Thus the question whether during the Boer War it would or would not have been wise to take "the opportunity of dealing the recent opponent of our [German] international policy a shrewd blow," is calmly discussed. Prince Bulow manifestly thought that the proposal was well worthy of consideration; but it was rejected for various reasons, one, and probably the most convincing, of which was that at that time, the German could not hope to compete successfully with the British Navy. Had the decision been in an opposite sense, the morality of the proceeding would, without doubt, have been defended on the ground that in the chequered course of English history greater outrages on public morality had been committed, such, for instance, as Bulw's alleged desertion from Frederick the Great in the eighteenth century and the destruction of the Danish fleet in 1801.

THE STATE IS FORCE.

The form in which Prince Bulow's views are presented is, therefore, somewhat calculated to give on the minds

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of these who had hoped that a higher tone of public morality than that which previously prevailed was being gradually infused into international policy. His work is a valuable object lesson on the theme recently developed by Lord Morley that "the State is a force." Germany is quite ready to be friends with other nations, provided that they do nothing to conflict with German interests, but she will not go out of her way to seek their amity. (Quoting from a statement by Prince Bulow's watchword.)

Far more important than the form is, however, the substance of what Prince Bulow has to say. "He may be deficient in international geniality. He is certainly not wanting in frankness. We have here a very lucid and, it cannot be denied, a perfectly truthful account of present German aims and policy. To all foreign nations, and to none more than to England, this statement should be of the utmost value. It is of far greater value than any similar utterance believed by an English statesman. If an English statesman, free from the trammels of office, were to write a book of this sort, it would, indeed, attract much attention, but it would be regarded as an individual expression of opinion. We should think it not merely possible, but highly probable, that before long some other equally qualified authority would combat the views which he had expressed. In our undisciplined English society there is room for a great variety of opinion—a point which Prince Bulow recognises insufficiently, or he would not have attached such great importance to the somewhat hysterical utterances of a few English newspapers and minor politicians in the past on the perfectly ridiculous text of *Delenda est Germania*. But different is the case in Germany. It may confidently be asserted that Prince Bulow expresses the opinions of the vast majority of his countrymen, and that, should any occasion for action arise, they will move to the orders of his official successors in support of those opinions with the precision and regularity of a Prussian battalion on the parade ground.

GERMAN FOREIGN POLICY.

What, therefore, is the corner stone of German foreign policy? First and foremost it is based on a hardy belief in the alleged irreconcilability of France. Not only is Prince Bulow convinced that the policy of revenge survives in full vigour amongst Frenchmen, but he even contemplates the possibility of "a return to such times as those of Louis XIV. and Napoleon I., when France indulged in wars of conquest." It is not only natural but perfectly justifiable that Germany should wish to guard against this danger, albeit Prince Bulow probably exaggerates its nature. All the evidence available points to the conclusion that the hold on French public opinion of the policy of revenge has been greatly loosened, and that the present generation of Frenchmen are eminently pacific. To overlook whatever danger exists would appear to arise, not so much from a renewed attempt to adopt a policy of adventure on the part of France, as from the possibility that in some of the minor diplomatic incidents, which must frequently occur in the relations between neighbouring States, the German aspect of the case may be pressed with a harshness calculated to sting to the quick a highly sensitive nation proud of its past and confident in its future. The hand of German diplomacy is grievously heavy.

As regards England, Prince Bulow says: "The direction of English policy depends primarily on the way in which the distribution of power in Europe reacts on English naval supremacy." The fears caused by the rise of the German Navy drew England towards France. The Anglo-French Agreement of 1914 was, Prince Bulow thinks, conceived in

a spirit hostile to Germany. This view is certainly erroneous. The origin of this Agreement is to be found in the fact that both nations simultaneously appreciated the danger lest the frequent bickerings which occurred in Egypt and elsewhere might sooner or later seriously impair their own friendly relations. They therefore resolved to reassure them. In doing so, they, without doubt, incidentally intended a check on German policy, for it had for a long while "past been the persistent object of German diplomacy to keep the two Western nations asunder. The case of England is, however, in Prince Bulow's opinion, wholly different from that of France." "France," he says, "would attack us if she thought she were strong enough; England would only do so if she thought she could not defend her vital economic and political interests against Germany" except by force. Nevertheless, Prince Bulow is convinced that no conflict with England will take place. He ridicules the idea that England need stand in any fear of German invasion. He insists on the peaceful intentions of Germany. He holds, as he is perfectly justified in holding, that the trend of the Triple Alliance so far has been to preserve the peace of the world.

There need not be the smallest hesitation in accepting Prince Bulow's peaceful assurances, or in believing that the German Navy has been created, not for aggressive purposes, but "as a means of national defence and to strengthen our [German] national safety." More than this, there is every reason to suppose that so long as German policy is guided by statesmen who exhibit the admirable, albeit somewhat frigid, common sense displayed by Prince Bulow, no serious risk of a conflict will occur. Apart, however, from the fact that Anglo-German cannot be considered altogether apart from Franco-German relations, and that an unprovoked attack by Germany on France would almost certainly draw England into the struggle, it is impossible to feel completely assured as regards the future.

VALUE OF PUBLIC OPINION.

In the first place, it is to be observed that the political conditions under which the two countries are governed differ very widely. In England public opinion is supreme. Its liability to change affords in itself an ample justification for Prince Bulow's reluctance to conclude an English alliance. But there is one point on which the opinion of the modern English democracy is absolutely fixed. It desires above all things peace. No Ministers, however powerful, and no press campaign, however skillfully conducted, would reverse the present electorate of the United Kingdom to an unprovoked attack on another nation. Far different is the case in Germany. The German, Prince Bulow tells us, "has always accomplished his greatest works under strong, steady, and firm guidance, and has seldom done well without such guidance." Which constitutes the greater danger to the peace of the world—the undisciplined nation which stubbornly refuses to be guided, or the disciplined people who yield implicit obedience to

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their guides? From a more academic point of view, it may be difficult to give a confident reply to this question. In the one case, there is a risk that a wave of popular passion may sweep away the scruples of a peace-loving Minister; as happened to Lord Aberdeen in 1854. In the other case, the peace of the world is made to rest on the very uncertain basis of the wishes and judgment of one or more highly placed individuals. It is, however, probable that those who, on the one hand, realize the very pacific tendencies of the present British democracy, and who, on the other hand, have watched the vagaries of German militarism, as displayed, for instance, in the recent Zabern incident, would look to the former rather than to the latter system as an efficient antidote to ultra-warlike predilections.

IS WAR JUSTIFIABLE?

In the second place, it is worthy of special note that the attitudes from which questions involving peace or war are generally regarded in the two countries lie as the poles asunder. It is futile to examine the misty records of eighteenth and early nineteenth century diplomacy in order to make a forecast of the course which, in any given circumstances, England would now pursue. A vast change has since those times come over British public opinion. The immense majority of the English people hold, apart from any consideration based on the material advantages of peace, that war is wholly unjustifiable save as a last resort to remedy some specific cause of grievance occasioned by the action of a foreign Power. A wholly different view is apparently entertained in Germany. Not only is it a fact that an extreme school of German militarists maintains that even an unnecessary war is from time to time desirable to strengthen the virility of the nation, not only does militarism of one type or another reign supreme and is supported by a strong and learned body of civilian opinion, but also the principle is recognised that war can and ought to be made on some foreign Power, not by reason of any special cause of grievance which it may have occasioned, but to attain some object connected with internal policy. It is admitted, almost in so many words, by Prince Bulow that the Franco-German War was created by Prince Bismarck in order to secure the unification of Germany. The necessity, from the German point of view, need not in this case be challenged. The diplomacy may have been in the highest degree astute. But the fact in itself gives cause for reflection on the part of other Powers.

Prince Bulow tells us that "there is absolutely no ground for the fear which the building of our Navy has aroused, that with the rise of German power at sea the German love of battle will be awakened." That this statement is made in all sincerity cannot for a moment be doubted. Nevertheless, with the experience of the past before us, we cannot feel any very strong assurance that the incidents of German internal policy will not again necessitate an attack on some foreign Power. Should that necessity arise, it cannot be doubted that an ardent diplomacy could and would manufacture occurrences tending to show the war was forced on the reluctant and peace-loving population of Germany.

Such being the state of affairs, the obvious duty of this country is, whilst sparing no efforts to maintain peace, to prepare for the eventuality of war. To reduce the British Navy, with Prince Bulow's ruthless but perfectly rational code of international morals staring us in the face, would be an act of madness. "Little-Navyites" might with great advantage read Prince Bulow's book.

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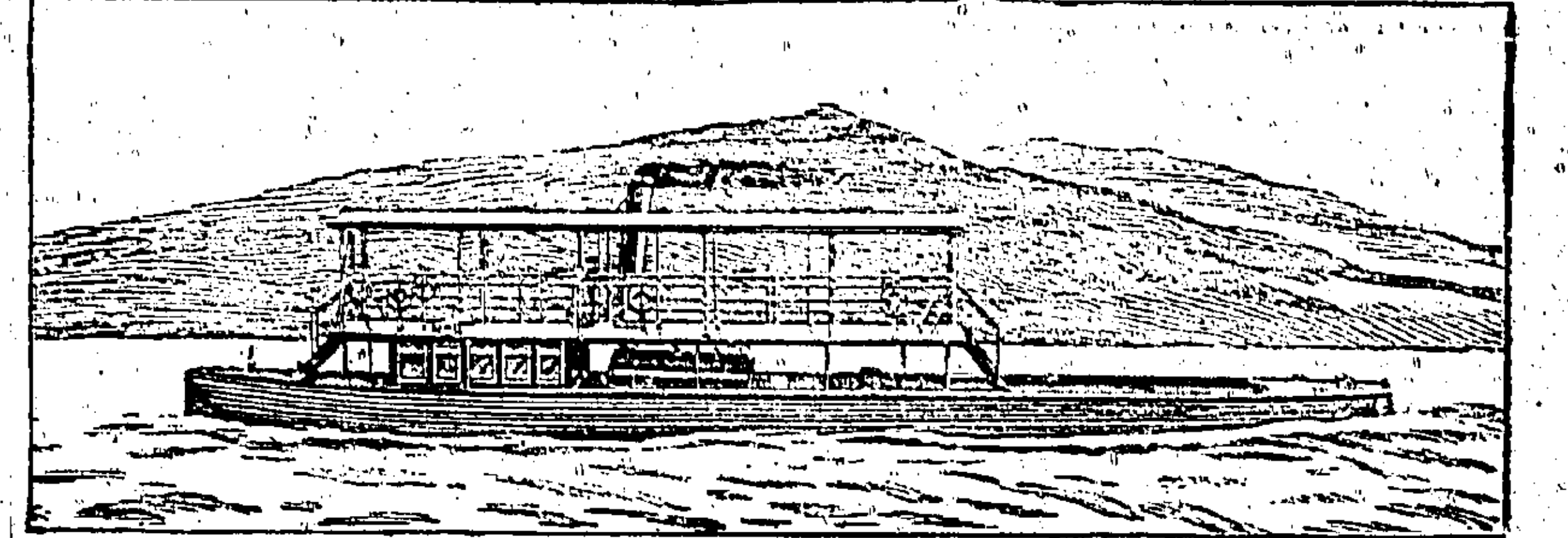
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KOWLOON				
No. 1 Dock, Kowloon	700	100	10	10
No. 2 Dock, Kowloon	271	100	10	10
Patent Slip, No. 1, Kowloon	224	100	10	10
Patent Slip, No. 2, Kowloon	227	100	10	10
TAL-KOK-TSUI				
Common Dock	400	100	10	10
ABERDEEN				
Hong Dock	200	100	10	10
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R. M. DYER, B.Sc., M.I.N.E., Kowloon Dock, Hongkong.

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

TIME TABLE.

OUT		IN	
Station	Time	Station	Time
Kowloon	12.15	Canton	7.00
Hung Hom	8.54	Sham Chun	6.05
Tai Ma Ti	8.59	Sheng Shui	7.12
Sai Tin	7.10	Fan Ling	8.10
Tai Po	12.45	Tai Po Market	8.20
Tai Po Market	7.27	Tai Po	8.32
Fan Ling	7.38	Sham Chun	8.44
Sheng Shui	7.39	Tai Ma Ti	8.54
Sham Chun	1.10	Hung Hom	9.03
Canton (about)	4.30	Kowloon	9.05

Golf Train—Sunclairs Only.

Kowloon 6.45 Tai Po 9.16 Sheng Shui 9.27

Sha Tau Kok Branch.

OUT

Yau Ling 6.55 Dep. 6.55

Sha Tau Kok 6.55

Sha Tau Kok Branch.

IN

Sha Tau Kok 7.10

Yau Ling 7.15

